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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/880,084	06/14/2001	John Mamana	06920001AA	3811

7590

12/28/2004

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McLean, VA 22102

EXAMINER

LEITH, PATRICIA A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1654

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/880,084

Applicant(s)

MAMANA, JOHN

Examiner

Patricia Leith

Art Unit

1654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 23-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 23-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-13 and 23-25 are pending in the application and were examined on the merits.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a previous Office Action.

Claims 1-13 and 23-25 remain rejected under Gorsek et al. (US 6,383,482) in view of Eisenberg (1998) for the reasons of record.

Applicant's arguments were fully considered, but not found persuasive.

Applicant argues "there is nothing in Eisenberg that teaches or suggests using HMB in an appetite suppressant". Applicant further argues that the particular amounts of ingredients as found in the claims is not particularly disclosed in either reference.

The intended use of the composition; in the Instant case, an appetite suppressant, does not preclude the composition as a whole for fat-loss. It is again reiterated that the Instantly claimed ingredients would have been obvious to combine for this reason, even if this reason is different than Applicant's.

Further, as it was pointed out in previous Office Actions, the amounts as recited in the claims are deemed to be well within the purview of the ordinary artisan.

Variations of individual ingredients was well known in the art of pharmacology in order to optimize result effective variables. Further, there is no showing of any unexpected results with the particularly claimed amounts of constituents.

Applicant further argues that the ordinary artisan would not be motivate to use HMB along with the other claimed constituents because, as evidenced by Eisenberg, HMB contributed toward weight gain when athletes took HMB during work-outs. Further, Applicant argues that Eisenburg specifically taught away from appetite suppressants. Therefore, Applicant concludes that there is no motivation to combine Applicant's appetite suppressant composition with Eisenberg's HMB.

However, it is again noted that Gorsek et al. taught Applicant's 'appetite suppressing' elements as 'fat-burning' elements. Therefore, the motivation to combine Gorsek's composition, which was a fat-burning composition, with Eisenberg's fat burning composition comprising HMB flows naturally from the art. The combination of two elements which were known for the same purpose is prima facie obvious. Even though Eisenberg showed that people gained weight when taking HMB, it is clear that these people were working out; burning fat and gaining muscle.

No claims are allowed.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

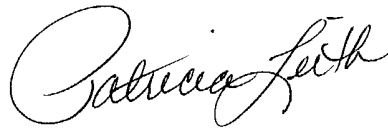
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia Leith whose telephone number is (571) 272-0968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell can be reached on (571) 272-0974. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patricia Leith
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1654

12/23/04

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia Leith", positioned below the printed name and title.